



251 North Avenue West, 2nd Floor
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
Tel.: (908) 518-7700
Fax: (908) 518-7795

Fax:908-518-7795

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Mayer & Williams PC
Attorneys At Law

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PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PART-B ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL AND COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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Serial No. 10/712,492

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael Stuart Weaver

Appln. No.: 10/712,492

Filed: November 13, 2003

Title: METHODS AND STRUCTURES FOR REDUCING LATERAL DIFFUSION THROUGH COOPERATIVE BARRIER LAYERS

Art Unit: 2813

Examiner: Laura M. Schillinger

Confirm. No.: 8333

Docket No.: UDC-20201 CON

Via Facsimile 571-273-2885
Office of Patent Publication
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

This is filed in response to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance which were set forth in connection with the Notice of Allowance mailed October 31, 2006. These comments are being filed simultaneously with the payment of the government issue fee.

The Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance indicates that the prior art fails to show that the high density layer in conjunction with the substrate *completely* surrounds the high density layer as depicted in Fig. 6 and 7 of Applicant's drawings. Claim 44 is therefore allowable, the remaining dependent claims act only to further narrow the allowable subject matter and therefore are also deemed to be allowable over prior art.

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Application SN
10/712,492

The undersigned notes a typographical error in the above reasons for allowance in that the high density layer in conjunction with the substrate completely surrounds the *planarizing* layer as depicted in Fig. 6 and 7 of Applicant's drawings.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at (703) 433-0510.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Bonham
Registration No. 34,297

Mayer & Williams PC
251 North Avenue West, 2nd Floor
Westfield NJ 07090
(908) 518-7700
(908) 518-7795 fax

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